

Interim Directory of Legislative Committees and Activities

**Includes Other Committees
on Which Legislators Serve**

2009-2010

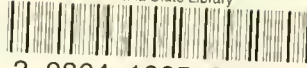
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<i>PRIMARY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES</i>
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Legislative Council and Legislative Services Division

<http://leg.mt.gov/legcouncil> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/administration/legislative_council/2009-10/default.asp

Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 11, MCA

Article V, section 10(4), Montana Constitution

The Legislative Council is a 12-member bipartisan committee composed of six members of the Senate and six members of the House of Representatives, including the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, and the minority leaders from each house.¹

The Legislative Council generally oversees the activities of the Legislative Services Division (LSD). Some of the specific duties described in Title 5, chapter 11, MCA, include:

- adopting rules governing personnel management for the Legislative Branch, including rules for employee classification and pay with the concurrence of the Legislative Audit and Legislative Finance Committees;
- appointing the Executive Director of the LSD;
- establishing time schedules and deadlines for interim committees, including dates for requesting legislation and completing interim work;
- assisting the LSD in providing oversight of the state governmental broadcasting service;
- appointing legislators to serve as members of interstate, international, and intergovernmental entities, based on recommendations made by legislative leadership; and
- approving the biennial Legislative Branch information technology plan.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Sections 1-11-203,
1-11-301, and

Require the Legislative Council to provide general supervision of and policy direction to the Code Commissioner and to make

¹A member serving based on the member's leadership position who is in the last biennium of service because of term limits may appoint a legislator who is not term-limited to serve in place of the term-limited member.

1-11-302, MCA	decisions on the printing and cost of the Montana Code Annotated.
Sections 1-12-101 and 1-12-102, MCA	Require the Legislative Council to appoint commissioners to the Montana commission on Uniform State Laws. The Council may accept recommendations for appointments from the State Bar of Montana, the Montana Judges' Association, and the dean of the University of Montana law school.
Sections 2-1-406 and 2-1-408, MCA	In considering the legality or cost-effectiveness of a federal mandate, federal statute, or state program, the Governor may request assistance from the Legislative Council or its staff. Assistance is at the discretion of the Council.
Section 2-15-1808, MCA	Requires the Legislative Council to provide compensation to the legislative liaisons to the Montana Board of Investments.
Section 2-17-101, MCA	Provides for the Legislative Council to advise the Montana Department of Administration (DOA) in the allocation of space, aside from the House and Senate Chambers, for the use of the Legislature.
Section 2-17-518, MCA	Requires the Legislative Council to adopt adequate rules for the use of information technology resources as a part of the Legislative Branch computer system plan.
Sections 2-17-805 and 2-17-825, MCA	The Legislative Council provides advice to the DOA in establishing and maintaining a long-range master plan for the orderly development of the capitol complex. The Council may prepare a written report of its activities and recommendations related to its duties to assist the Legislature in determining whether the recommendations should be implemented.
Section 2-18-201, MCA	Requires the Legislative Council to institute a broadband classification plan for employees of the Legislative Branch, other than those of the Office of Consumer Counsel.
Section 5-2-201, MCA	The Legislative Council designates the time for holding the pre-session caucuses.
Section 5-2-503, MCA	Legislative Branch entities defined as consolidated under section 5-2-504, MCA, including the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Legislative Council, the Legislative Services Division, the Legislative Finance Committee, the Legislative Fiscal Division, the Legislative Audit Committee, the Legislative Audit Division, and the Environmental Quality Council, must, among

other requirements, follow the administrative policies adopted by and submit its budget proposals through the Legislative Council. The Senate and the House of Representatives or a consolidated entity with statutory hiring authority may hire its own personnel, subject to administrative procedures established by the Legislature and Legislative Council. The Legislative Council allocates office space occupied by the Legislative Branch for these consolidated entities.

Section 5-4-204(4a), MCA	The Legislative Services Division must provide the form for a sponsor who elects to prepare a sponsor's fiscal note rebuttal.
Section 5-5-202, MCA	If there is a dispute among interim committees as to which committee has proper jurisdiction over a subject, the Legislative Council determines the most appropriate committee and assigns the subject to that committee.
Section 5-5-211, MCA	If the interim committee workload requires, the Legislative Council may request the appointing authority for interim committee members to appoint one or two additional interim committee members from the majority party and the minority party.
Section 5-5-217, MCA	Gives the Legislative Council the authority to select studies to be conducted during the interim and to assign the studies to the appropriate interim committees.
Sections 5-6-103, 5-6-107, and 5-6-108, MCA	Provide that the Legislative Council assigns and establishes guidelines for legislative interns.
Section 77-2-302, MCA	The Legislative Council serves as the appropriate legislative committee for consultation with the Board of Land Commissioners regarding the disposal, sale, or exchange of certain state lands.
Section 90-1-132, MCA	The State-Tribal Economic Development Commission must provide to the Governor, the Legislative Council, the Legislative Auditor, and to each of the presiding officers of the tribal governments in Montana a biennial report that summarizes the activities of the Commission.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

House Members

Rep. Bob Bergren (D)
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Assigned Studies

None

Staff

Susan Byorth Fox, Executive Director, Legislative Services Division
Greg Petesch, Director of Legal Services Office, Legislative Services Division
Dawn Field, Legislative Secretary, Legislative Services Division

Legislative Services Division

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The Legislative Services Division (LSD) is an independent, nonpartisan, impartial agency of the Legislative Branch, performing those duties and functions assigned by law or as directed or requested by legislators or legislative committees.

The LSD is divided into five offices: the Central Services Office, the Office of Research and Policy Analysis, the Legal Services Office, the Office of Legislative Information Technology, and the Legislative Environmental Policy Office.

The **Central Services Office** staff is responsible for general LSD administration, purchasing, publication distribution, payroll and personnel matters, final preparation of

LSD documents (including engrossing and enrolling of bills and preparation of introduced bills), legislative printing and distribution, and legislator information and telecommunications.

Central Services Office

Susan Byorth Fox, Executive Director
Gayle Shirley, Legislative Information Officer
Karen Berger, Financial Services Manager
Lenore Adams, Facilities Coordinator
Lesley Bergman, Human Resource Specialist
Kelly DaSilva, Human Resource Officer
Jennifer Simmons, Accounting Specialist
Kevin Hayes, Publications Coordinator/Session Information Officer
Ann Patten, Document Processing Manager
Kip Davis, Senior Proofreader

The **Office of Research and Policy Analysis** and the **Legal Services Office** conduct general and specialized research. Staff from both offices provide professional support to session and interim committees, draft legislation, prepare research reports, and provide information on the Legislature to the public.

The Office of Research and Policy Analysis has primary responsibility for staffing interim committees, providing reference services, and staffing a library that provides access to items of special interest to legislators and Legislative Branch staff. The Legal Services Office is responsible for compiling, updating, editing, and indexing the Montana Code Annotated and preparing the Annotations under the supervision of the Code Commissioner, who is also the Director of Legal Services. The Legal Services Office is also required to review all proposed initiatives for compliance with bill drafting standards.

Office of Research and Policy Analysis

Dave Bohyer, Director
Casey Barrs, Research Analyst
Sheri Heffelfinger, Research Analyst
Leanne Heisel, Research Analyst
Jeff Martin, Research Analyst

Pat Murdo, Research Analyst
Sue O'Connell, Research Analyst
Rachel Weiss, Research Analyst
Sonia Gavin, Legislative Information Resources Manager
Pamela Weitz, Library Technician
Dawn Field, Legislative Secretary/Document Technician
Fong Hom, Legislative Secretary/Document Technician
CJ Johnson, Administrative Support Secretary
Donna Fletcher, Receptionist

Legal Services Office

Greg Petesch, Director/Code Commissioner
Bart Campbell, Attorney
Jeremy Gersovitz, Attorney
Lee Heiman, Attorney
Valencia Lane, Attorney
Lisa Mecklenberg Jackson, Attorney
David Niss, Attorney
Doug Sternberg, Legal Researcher
Connie Dixon, Chief Legislative Technical Editor
Sally Bush, Legislative Technical Editor
Jesse Northerner, Legislative Technical Editor

The **Office of Legislative Information Technology** includes computer network and personal computer support personnel, systems analysts, and programmer/analysts who develop and maintain the programs and applications used by the Legislative Branch, including an online bill status system and the Branch website.

Office of Legislative Information Technology

Hank Trenk, Director
Steve Eller, Computer Systems Manager
Mike Allen, Systems Analyst
Gerald Churchill, Programmer Analyst
Alysa Eaton, Programmer Analyst
Jim Gordon, Programmer Analyst
Darrin McLean, IT Architect

Dale Gow, Network Manager
David Dowling, Network Engineer
Chris Matson, Network Administrator
Shane Courtney, Network Administrator
Kenneth Bagg, IT Support Technician

The **Legislative Environmental Policy Office** provides staff services to the Environmental Quality Council and is described in detail under that committee.

LSD staff may be contacted by email. In *most* cases, state employee email addresses are composed of the first letter of the staff person's first name (in some cases, the first and second letter of the first name) followed by the last name, then "@mt.gov".

Examples are:

dbohyer@mt.gov or
lheiman@mt.gov.

Legislative Audit Committee and Legislative Audit Division

<http://leg.mt.gov/audit> or
<http://leg.mt.gov/css/audit/default.asp>

*Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 13, MCA
Article V, section 10(4), Montana Constitution*

The Legislative Audit Committee is a bicameral and bipartisan committee of the Montana Legislature. It consists of six members of the Senate and six members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Committee on Committees and the Speaker of the House, respectively. The Audit Committee appoints, consults with, and advises the Legislative Auditor. The Audit Committee and the public hearings on the audit reports issued by the Legislative Auditor are an integral part of the audit process so that a fair and comprehensive presentation of facts can be provided.

The Audit Committee meets as often as necessary during and between legislative sessions to generally oversee the Division's activities.

Other Statutory Responsibilities of the Legislative Audit Committee

Sections 2-8-105(2) and 2-8-112, MCA	Upon submission by the Governor of a list to the Audit Committee of recommendations for agencies and programs to be terminated and subject to a performance audit during the next biennium, the Committee is responsible for conducting a review of each agency or program scheduled for termination and submitting its recommendations to the next Legislature.
Sections 2-8-302 (5)(a) and 2-8-304, MCA	Before an agency may privatize a program, it shall prepare a privatization plan. The Audit Committee shall conduct a public hearing on the proposed privatization plan. At least 30 days prior to the proposed implementation date, the Committee shall vote to recommend approval or disapproval of the privatization plan to the Governor and transmit the recommendation in writing to the Governor. The recommendation of the Committee is advisory only.
Section 2-15-2224, MCA	If directed by the Audit Committee, the Legislative Audit Division may provide information concerning the accuracy of data collection and reporting that supports performance measure data

collection at the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services.

Section 5-11-105(1)(b),(c)
MCA

With the concurrence of the Audit Committee and the Legislative Finance Committee, the Legislative Council shall adopt rules for classification and pay of Legislative Branch employees, other than those of the Office of Consumer Counsel.

With the concurrence of the Audit Committee and the Legislative Finance Committee, the Legislative Council shall adopt rules governing personnel management of Branch employees, other than those of the Office of Consumer Counsel.

Section 17-7-160(3), MCA

Requires the Montana Department of Justice each fiscal year to provide to the Audit Committee a detailed report on all positions in the Montana Highway Patrol.

Section 17-7-161(3), MCA

Requires the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks each fiscal year to provide to the Audit Committee a detailed report on all authorized game warden positions in the Department.

Section 23-7-412, MCA

The Legislative Audit Division conducts a comprehensive audit of all aspects of security in the operation of the lottery. Specific audit findings relating to security invasion techniques are confidential and may be reported only to the Audit Committee, the director of the lottery, the Lottery Commission, the Attorney General, and the Governor.

Section 53-1-203(3), MCA

Prior to entering into a contract for a period of 20 years, the Department of Corrections shall submit the proposed contract to the Audit Committee. The Legislative Audit Division shall review the contract and make recommendations or comments to the Audit Committee. The Committee may submit comments and recommendations to the Department.

Section 53-30-608(1), MCA

Allows the Audit Committee to request the Legislative Audit Division to review the procedures by which a contract to a private correctional facility was awarded and to review the contract prior to execution.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

House Members

Rep. Dee Brown (R)

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Assigned Studies

None

The Audit Committee appoints the Legislative Auditor, who heads the Legislative Audit Division (LAD). Through financial-compliance, performance, and information system audits, LAD staffs perform independent audits and provide factual and objective information to the legislative and executive managers of the public trust.

Specifically, an audit of a state agency is conducted to determine whether the agency is properly managing expenditures, using funds only to further authorized activities and in accordance with the requirements of applicable laws and regulations; whether the agency is properly accounting for all revenues, receipts, and expenditures arising from its activities; whether the agency is accurately reporting and fully disclosing its financial status and the scope of its activities and operations to the Governor, the Legislature, and central control agencies; whether the agency is efficiently carrying out the activities and programs authorized by the Legislature; and whether the agency is adequately safeguarding and controlling its assets and using them efficiently.

Section 5-13-311, MCA, provides for a toll-free hotline to the LAD that Montana residents may use in reporting fraud, waste, and abuse in state government. The LAD is responsible for maintaining the hotline, reviewing all calls received, keeping a record of each call, analyzing and verifying the information relayed in the call, and potentially conducting additional work to document the activity. The Legislative Auditor is required to periodically update the Committee on the use of the hotline, results of the reviews, verifications, referrals, and any corrective action taken by the appropriate agency. The hotline number is 1-800-222-4446 outside Helena and 444-4446 from a Helena location.

Audit Division Staff

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Jeane Carstensen-Garrett, Audit Manager

John Fine, Audit Manager

Geri Hoffman, Audit Manager

Cindy Jorgenson, Audit Manager

Vickie Rauser, Audit Manager

Performance Audit Management

Angie Grove, Deputy Legislative Auditor

Lisa Blanford, Audit Manager

Joe Murray, Audit Manager

Angus Maciver, Audit Manager

Information Systems Audit Management

Kent Rice, Audit Manager

Legislative Finance Committee and Legislative Fiscal Division

<http://leg.mt.gov/lfc> or

<http://leg.mt.gov/css/fiscal/default.asp>

Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 12, MCA

The Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) consists of four members of the Senate Finance and Claims Committee appointed by that committee's chair, two members of the Senate appointed at large by the Committee on Committees, four members of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee appointed by that committee's chair, and two members of the House appointed at large by the Speaker.

The LFC appoints a Legislative Fiscal Analyst whose duties are to head the Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD); provide information regarding state government financial matters; assist in estimating revenue from state taxes, fees, and other sources; analyze the executive budget; assist the Revenue and Transportation Committee in performing its revenue-estimating duties; and generally assist the Legislature in all matters of compiling and analyzing financial information.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

The LFC has many responsibilities described in other areas of the statutes related to revenue estimating and reporting duties.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

House Members

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Rep. Jon Sesso (D)

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Senate Members

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Sen. Carol Williams (D), Vice Presiding Officer

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Assigned Studies

SJR 9: Study of student loan system (SJR 9 was assigned to LFC by the Legislative Council but the Committee has not made a decision as of the publication of this directory whether or not to undertake the study).

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Subcommittee (ARRA): Although it was not legislatively initiated, the LFC appointed this subcommittee to provide oversight of stimulus spending, including but not limited to the appropriations contained in House Bill No. 645. Subcommittee Members are Sen. Carol Williams, Presiding Officer, Rep. Cynthia Hiner, Sen. Dave Lewis, and Rep. Janna Taylor.

Fiscal Division Staff

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Roger Lloyd, Senior Fiscal Analyst

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Catherine Duncan, Senior Fiscal Analyst

Expenditure Policy

Taryn Purdy, Principal Fiscal Analyst

Greg DeWitt, Senior Fiscal Analyst

Pat Gervais, Senior Fiscal Analyst

Pam Joehler, Senior Fiscal Analyst

Lois Steinbeck, Senior Fiscal Analyst

Marilyn Daumiller, Fiscal Analyst

Barbara Smith, Fiscal Analyst

Matthew Stayner, Fiscal Analyst

Kristine Wilkinson, Fiscal Analyst

<i>PRIMARY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES</i>
<i>STATUTORY INTERIM AND OTHER COMMITTEES WITH LEGISLATIVE STAFF SUPPORT</i>
<i>ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES ON WHICH LEGISLATORS SERVE</i>
<i>INTERSTATE ORGANIZATIONS</i>

Children, Families, Health, and Human Services

<http://leg.mt.gov/cfhhs> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2009_2010/children_family/default.asp

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-225, MCA

The Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee (CFHHS) is a joint bipartisan committee of the Legislature established in law and required to meet in the time period between the end of one regular legislative session and the beginning of the next. State law sets out the duties and responsibilities for interim committees, as follows:

- conduct interim studies as assigned;
- propose bills and resolutions the committee believes should be presented to the next Legislature; and
- review administrative rules, programs, and legislation for agencies within the committee's jurisdiction.

Under section 5-5-225, MCA, the CFHHS Committee is responsible for monitoring the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS), the largest agency in state government.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 2-15-225, MCA	Requires the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) to develop and implement benchmarks for state prevention programs for at-risk children and families. The ICC is required to report on these efforts to the CFHHS Committee.
Section 2-15-2225, MCA	Calls for the DPHHS to report performance data to the CFHHS Committee and to the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning. The CFHHS Committee must use the performance data to review the DPHHS's strategic planning documents as they relate to prospective legislation.
Section 46-23-210, MCA	Before July 1 of each even-numbered year, the Board of Pardons and Parole must report to the CFHHS Committee and the Law and Justice Interim Committee regarding the outcome related to any person released on medical parole since the last report, including health care costs and payments related to the care of the person released on medical parole.

Section 50-4-805, MCA	Requires the DPHHS to provide regular interim reports on the status of the grant program for community health centers and program expenditures to the CFHHS and Legislative Finance Committees.
Section 52-2-311, MCA	Provides that the DPHHS must report biannually to the CFHHS Committee on the out-of-state placement of children with mental health needs.
Section 53-1-714, MCA	Requires the DPHHS to provide a biennial report on the statewide 2-1-1 system to the CFHHS Committee and to the Legislature.
Section 53-2-215, MCA	Calls for the DPHHS to present a section 1115 waiver proposal to the House Appropriations Committee or, during the interim, the CFHHS Committee after final approval from the federal government.
Section 53-4-1009, MCA	Requires the CFHHS Committee to specifically review rules related to the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).
Section 53-21-702, MCA	Mandates the Mental Health Oversight Advisory Council to provide a summary of each meeting and a copy of any recommendations made to the DPHHS to the Legislative Finance Committee and any other designated appropriate legislative interim committee.
Section 53-21-1102, MCA	Requires the DPHHS to develop a suicide reduction plan and report on the plan to the CFHHS Committee.
Section 1, Chapter 190, Laws of 2009	Requires that the Children's System of Care Planning Committee study the progress achieved to date in developing a statewide system of care for high-risk children with multiagency service needs and provide the information to the appropriate interim committee no later than July 10, 2010.
Section 3, Chapter 320, Laws of 2009	Requires the DPHHS to report on its progress in establishing goals, responsibilities, and performance expectations for the services provided to older Montanans.
Section 5, Chapter 388, Laws of 2009	States that the DPHHS must provide regular interim reports on the Transportation for Involuntary Treatment Program and Account to the Legislative Finance and the CFHHS Committees.

Section 1, Chapter 415, Laws of 2009	Calls for the DPHHS to report to the CFHHS Committee on the use of grant funds for a pilot project in which local public health agencies will undertake activities designed to help them determine the cost of meeting national public health accreditation standards.
House Joint Resolution No. 17	Provides for the CFHHS Committee to receive a report on the study to be undertaken by the DPHHS on the use of medication aides in nursing homes.
House Joint Resolution No. 25	Provides that the DPHHS must report at least quarterly on its review of the Medicaid eligibility determination process for nursing home care and any problems that are identified with the process.
Senate Joint Resolution No. 5	Calls for MHA — an Association of Montana Health Care Providers and others to provide updates to the CFHHS Committee on the MHA website and transparency in health care pricing related efforts.

Membership

Joint Rule 30-70

At least 50% of the members must have served on the following session standing committees:

- House Appropriations
- House Human Services
- Senate Finance and Claims
- Senate Public Health, Welfare, and Safety

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Assigned Studies

HJR 39: Study community services for people with developmental disabilities who also have mental health needs.

SJR 35: Study matters relating to health care.

Staff

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Districting and Apportionment Commission

<http://leg.mt.gov/districting> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2009_2010/districting/default.asp

Statutory Citation: Sections 5-1-101 and 5-1-102, MCA

Article V, section 14, Montana Constitution

The Districting and Apportionment Commission has authority under the Montana Constitution to draw the boundaries of congressional and legislative districts every 10 years, using population data from the most recent U.S. Census. Districts must be as nearly equal in population as is practicable.

Republican and Democratic leaders in the House and Senate each select a commissioner. The four commissioners then select a fifth member to serve as the presiding officer. Members of the Commission may not be public officials. The first four commissioners met twice to discuss the candidates but were unable to agree on a fifth commissioner within the 20 days given them by the Montana Constitution. The Commission then requested the Montana Supreme Court to select the fifth commissioner. On May 22, 2009, the Court unanimously selected former Justice Jim Regnier as the fifth commissioner and presiding officer.

The current Commission must complete its work and present it to the 2013 Legislature for review and recommendations. Within 30 days, the Commission must file the plan, which then becomes law. The plan will be in effect for the 2014 election cycle.

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Economic Affairs

<http://leg.mt.gov/eaic> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2009_2010/economic_affairs/default.asp

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-223, MCA

The Economic Affairs Interim Committee is a joint bipartisan committee of the Montana Legislature that meets during the interims between legislative sessions. It conducts interim studies and generally reviews issues related to economic development. It also monitors the programs and functions of the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Labor and Industry, and Livestock, as well as the Office of the State Auditor and Insurance Commissioner and the Governor's Office of Economic Development.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 2-8-404, MCA	Before January 1 of each even-numbered year, a legislative interim committee responsible for monitoring licensing boards and programs must notify the department to which licensing boards or programs are administratively attached if the committee plans to review one or more licensing boards or programs to determine the need for a board or a program and the financial solvency or appropriate administrative attachment of the board or program.
Section 2-15-1019, MCA	Calls for two members of the Committee to act as liaisons to the Board of Directors of the State Compensation Insurance Fund.
Section 2-15-2511, MCA	Requires two members of the Committee to serve on the Rail Service Competition Council and requires the Council to report to the Committee.
Section 22-3-1002, MCA	Requires a biennial review by the appropriate interim committee of the Legislature of the administrative fee negotiated between the Montana Heritage Preservation and Development Commission and the Montana Department of Commerce.
Section 37-1-101, MCA	Establishes that the Montana Department of Labor and Industry must provide notice to the appropriate legislative interim committee when a board cannot operate in a cost-effective manner and make recommendations to the committee for legislation revising the board's operations to achieve fiscal solvency.

Section 37-1-107, MCA

The Montana Department of Labor and Industry is required to convene a joint meeting once every 2 years of two or more boards that have licensees with dual licensure in related professions or occupations, have licensees licensed by another board in a related profession or with similar scopes of practice, or have issues of joint concern or related jurisdiction with each other. The Department must report to the interim committee responsible for monitoring boards with regard to attendance and issues of concern addressed by the boards.

Section 90-1-503, MCA

Requires the Montana Department of Commerce to submit a status report on the Distressed Wood Products Industry Loan Account to the Committee.

Membership

Joint Rule 30-70

At least 50% of the members must have served on the following session standing committees:

House Agriculture

House Appropriations

House Business and Labor

House Federal Relations, Energy, and Telecommunications

Senate Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation

Senate Business, Labor, and Economic Affairs

Senate Finance and Claims

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Assigned Studies

SJR 14: Study cooperative arrangements between state laboratories.

SJR 30: Study workers' compensation rates and the Montana State Fund.

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Education and Local Government

<http://leg.mt.gov/elgic> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2009_2010/education_and_local_government/default.asp

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-224, MCA

Section 5-5-224, MCA, provides ELGIC's specific statutory duties, which fall into three primary categories: local government relations; general state administration of education; and postsecondary education. The section requires the ELGIC to:

1. act as a liaison with local governments;
2. execute administrative rule review, draft legislation review, program evaluation, and monitoring responsibilities for the following agencies and the entities attached to the agencies for administrative purposes:
 - a. State Board of Education;
 - b. Board of Public Education;
 - c. Board of Regents of Higher Education; and
 - d. Office of Public Instruction;
3. provide information to the Board of Regents in the following areas:
 - a. annual budget allocations;
 - b. annual goal statement development;
 - c. long-range planning;
 - d. outcome assessment programs; and
 - e. any other area that the ELGIC considers to have significant educational or fiscal policy impact;
4. periodically review the success or failure of the university system in meeting its annual goals and long-range plans;
5. periodically review the results of outcome assessment programs;
6. develop mechanisms to ensure strict accountability of the revenue and expenditures of the university system;
7. study and report to the Legislature on the advisability of adjustments to the mechanisms used to determine funding for the university system, including criteria for determining appropriate levels of funding;
8. act as a liaison between both the Legislative and Executive Branches and the Board of Regents;

9. encourage cooperation between the Legislative and Executive Branches and the Board of Regents;
10. promote and strengthen local government through recognition of the principle that strong communities, with effective, democratic governmental institutions, are one of the best assurances of a strong Montana;
11. bring together representatives of state and local government for consideration of common problems;
12. provide a forum for discussing state oversight of local functions, realistic local autonomy, and intergovernmental cooperation;
13. identify and promote the most desirable allocation of state and local government functions, responsibilities, and revenue;
14. promote concise, consistent, and uniform regulation for local government;
15. coordinate and simplify laws, rules, and administrative practices in order to achieve more orderly and less competitive fiscal and administrative relationships between and among state and local governments;
16. review state mandates to local governments that are subject to sections 1-2-112 and 1-2-114 through 1-2-116, MCA;
17. make recommendations to the Legislature, Executive Branch agencies, and local governing bodies concerning:
 - a. changes in statutes, rules, ordinances, and resolutions that will provide concise, consistent, and uniform guidance and regulations for local government;
 - b. changes in tax laws that will achieve more orderly and less competitive fiscal relationships between levels of government;
 - c. methods of coordinating and simplifying competitive practices to achieve more orderly administrative relationships among levels of government; and
 - d. training programs and technical assistance for local government officers and employees that will promote effectiveness and efficiency in local government; and
18. conduct interim studies as assigned.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 20-7-101, MCA	Requires the Board of Public Education, prior to adoption or amendment of any accreditation standard, to submit each proposal to the ELGIC for review. The ELGIC must request that a fiscal analysis be prepared by the Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD). The LFD must provide its analysis to the ELGIC and to the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning to be used in the preparation of the executive budget.
Section 82-2-701, MCA	Obligates the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology to report to the ELGIC and the Environmental Quality Council on its

investigation of the state's sand and gravel deposits within 1 year of starting its investigations.

House Joint Resolution
No. 6

Urges the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Board of Public Education to consult with the ELGIC in identifying and developing shared policy goals and accountability measures for K-12 education.

Senate Joint
Resolution No. 8

Urges the Board of Regents, the Commissioner of Higher Education, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Board of Public Education to work with the ELGIC in developing K-20 shared policy goals and accountability measures.

Membership

Joint Rule 30-70

At least 50% of the members must have served on the following session standing committees:

- House Appropriations
- House Education
- House Local Government
- Senate Education and Cultural Resources
- Senate Finance and Claims
- Senate Local Government

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Assigned Studies

HJR 32: Study the impact of historic preservation and strategies for preservation.

SJR 2: Study community college establishment process.

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Energy and Telecommunications

<http://leg.mt.gov/etic> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2009_2010/energy_telecommunications/default.asp

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-230, MCA

The Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee (ETIC) has broad oversight over a range of energy and telecommunication-related topics in Montana. The Committee conducts interim studies as assigned by the Legislative Council and reviews the administrative rules proposed by the Montana Department of Public Service Regulation (DPSR) and the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC). Members also monitor the operation of the DPSR and PSC with specific attention to issues likely to require future legislative attention, opportunities to improve existing law through the analysis of problems, and the experiences of Montana's citizens with the operation of the agency that may be amenable to improvement through legislative action.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 69-8-402, MCA	Requires public utilities and cooperative utilities to submit annual summary reports of Universal System Benefits (USB) Programs to the ETIC. Also requires the ETIC, before September 15 of even-numbered years, to review the USB Programs and, if necessary, submit related recommendations to the Legislature.
Section 90-3-1301, MCA	Allows the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology to conduct geothermal research and, prior to each legislative session, update the ETIC on geothermal research, funding, and costs.
Section 90-4-1003, MCA	Requires the ETIC to review and recommend potential changes to the state energy policy each interim and, if necessary, present changes in the form of legislation to the full Legislature. During the 2009-10 interim, the ETIC must consult with a broad representation of stakeholders, including the public and state agencies, and focus its review on specific issues identified in Senate Bill No. 290 (2009).

Membership

Joint Rule 30-70

At least 50% of the members must have served on the following session standing committees:

House Appropriations

House Federal Relations, Energy, and Telecommunications

Senate Finance and Claims

Senate Energy

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Assigned Studies

SB 290: Review and revise state energy plan.

Staff

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Environmental Quality Council and Legislative Environmental Policy Office

<http://leg.mt.gov/eqc> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2009_2010/environmental_quality_council/default.asp

*Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 16, MCA
Title 75, chapter 1, part 3, MCA*

The Environmental Quality Council (EQC) is a 17-member committee created by the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). In general, the EQC reviews and appraises state programs and activities related to the environment to ensure compliance with MEPA (Title 75, chapter 1, parts 1 through 3, MCA).

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Sections 2-4-402 through 2-4-412, MCA	Describe the administrative rule oversight powers and duties of the EQC.
Section 2-15-1514, MCA	Requires participation of a Legislative Services Division staff person on the Natural Resource Data System Advisory Committee.
Section 2-15-1523, MCA	Includes a representative of the Legislative Services Division as a participant on the Ground Water Assessment Steering Committee.
Sections 5-5-202, 5-5-211, and 5-5-215, MCA	Discuss the organization and duties of interim committees. Requires the EQC and the Water Policy Interim Committee to coordinate on water issues.
Sections 5-16-101 through 5-16-105, MCA	Discuss the composition and terms of the EQC.
Section 75-5-313, MCA	States that the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) must provide a summary of the status of the development of temporary nutrient criteria to the EQC on or before July 1 of each year.
Section 75-10-111, MCA	Requires the DEQ to circulate solid waste management and resource recovery plans to the EQC for its review.

Section 76-13-145, MCA	Mandates that the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) report its progress in designating wildland-urban interface parcels to an appropriate interim committee assigned to study wildland fire suppression or to the EQC.
Section 77-2-366, MCA	Requires the DNRC to submit a detailed report of the land banking program to the EQC by July 1 of even-numbered years.
Section 77-5-301, et seq., MCA	The legislative statement of intent requires the DNRC, along with the technical committee charged with advising the department on implementation of the streamside management zone laws, to evaluate and report on the implementation of the act to the EQC.
Section 85-1-203, MCA	Mandates that the DNRC submit a copy of the State Water Plan to the EQC.
Section 85-1-621, MCA	Requires the DNRC to submit a biennial report to the EQC describing the status of the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program.
Section 85-2-105, MCA	Establishes the EQC's water policy duties. The EQC is specifically required to analyze and comment on the state water plan, the state water development process, water-related research, and the adequacy of the water resources data management system.
Section 85-2-281, MCA	Mandates that the Water Court and the DNRC report to the EQC on the progress of the adjudication process until 2020.
Section 85-2-350, MCA	Requires the Clark Fork River Basin Task Force to report annually to the EQC.
Section 85-2-436, MCA	Provides that the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (DFWP) submit a summary report to the EQC by December 1 of odd-numbered years of all appropriation rights changed to an instream flow purpose in the previous 2 years.
Section 87-1-230, MCA	Requires the DFWP to provide an annual report regarding deposits into and withdrawals from the Good Neighbor Policy state water and land maintenance account to the Oversight Subcommittee of the EQC.

Membership

The EQC consists of six senators, six representatives, four members of the public, and one nonvoting representative of the Governor. At least 50% of the Council's legislative

members must be selected from the session standing committees that consider issues within the jurisdiction of the EQC.

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Assigned Studies

HJR 1: Study biomass.

HJR 15: Study funding for a tourism and recreation enhancement program.

HJR 30: Study fire suppression issues.

SJR 28: Study recycling and solid waste recovery.

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The EQC appoints a Legislative Environmental Analyst, subject to approval by the Legislative Council, who heads the Legislative Environmental Policy Office (LEPO). LEPO is under the general administration of the Legislative Services Division and provides staff support to the EQC.

Legislative Environmental Policy Office

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Sonja Nowakowski, Research Analyst

Hope Stockwell, Research Analyst

Cynthia Peterson, Legislative Secretary

Law and Justice

<http://leg.mt.gov/ljic> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2009_2010/law_and_justice/default.asp

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-226, MCA

The Law and Justice Interim Committee (LJIC) is a joint bipartisan committee of the Legislature that meets between legislative sessions. The LJIC: (1) monitors the activities of the Department of Corrections, the Department of Justice, the Office of State Public Defender, and the Judicial Branch; (2) examines law and justice policy issues; and (3) makes recommendations to the Legislature. The LJIC's responsibilities include reviewing the administrative rules of assigned executive branch agencies (Department of Corrections, Department of Justice, and the Office of the State Public Defender).

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Sections 3-1-702 and 37-61-211, MCA	Require the Supreme Court administrator to report annually to the LJIC on the status of the development and procurement of information technology within the Judicial Branch and on expenditures for operations of certain commissions and other entities.
Section 41-5-2003, MCA	The Office of Court Administrator is required to report the results of its evaluation of out-of-home placements, programs, and services under the Juvenile Delinquency Intervention Act to the Department of Corrections, Cost Containment Review Panel, District Court Council, and LJIC.
Section 44-2-117, MCA	Requires the Montana Department of Justice to make periodic reports to the LJIC regarding the degree of compliance to state laws regarding racial profiling by municipal, county, consolidated local government, and state law enforcement agencies.
Section 46-23-210, MCA	Before July 1 of each even-numbered year, the Board of Pardons and Parole must report to the Children, Families, Health, and Human Services and the Law and Justice Interim Committees regarding the outcome related to any person released on medical parole since the last report, including health care costs and payments related to the care of the person released on medical parole.

Section 47-1-105, MCA	Requires the Public Defender Commission to submit a biennial report to the Governor, the Supreme Court, and the Legislature. Each interim, the Commission is also required to specifically report to the LJIC.
Section 2, Chapter 479, Laws of 2009	Provides that the LJIC may request a report from the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) on the implementation of the grant program for jail diversion and crisis intervention.
Section 2, Chapter 480, Laws of 2009	Provides that the LJIC may request a report from the DPHHS on the implementation status of contracting for emergency detention beds.
Section 8, Chapter 481, Laws of 2009	Provides that the LJIC may request a report from the DPHHS on the use of voluntary short-term inpatient treatment in lieu of involuntary commitment to the State Hospital.

Membership

Joint Rule 30-70

At least 50% of the members must have served on the following session standing committees:

- House Appropriations
- House Judiciary
- Senate Finance and Claims
- Senate Judiciary

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Assigned Studies

SJR 29: Study retention of biological evidence (e.g., DNA) in felony criminal cases.

SJR 39: Study DUI laws and enforcement.

Staff

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Valencia Lane, Attorney, Legislative Services Division

Dawn Field, Legislative Secretary, Legislative Services Division

Legislative Branch Computer System Planning Council

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2009_2010/computer_system_planning/default.asp

Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 11, part 4, MCA

Legislative participation in the Computer System Planning Council is not required by statute, but the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate may, at their discretion, assign legislators to serve.

The Council is responsible for reviewing and maintaining the Legislative Branch computer system plan, investigating new applications, designing methods for automation, developing system standards and identifying the needs of the Branch's computer system, and coordinating new applications with the statutory goals of the Legislative Branch.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 2-15-1021, MCA Calls for the Legislative Branch Computer System Planning Council to appoint a member that represents the Legislative Branch to the Information Technology Board.

Membership

The Council has nine members, including the Secretary of the Senate or a designee of the Senate President; the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives or a designee of the Speaker; the Sergeants-at-Arms in the two houses or another representative of each house designated by the Presiding Officer of that house; the Executive Director of the Legislative Services Division, who serves as Presiding Officer; the Legislative Auditor; the Legislative Fiscal Analyst; the Consumer Counsel; and a nonvoting designee of the director of the Department of Administration.

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Legislative Consumer Committee and Consumer Counsel

<http://leg.mt.gov/consumer> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/administration/consumer_counsel/default.asp

Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 15, MCA

Title 69, chapters 1 and 2, MCA

Article XIII, section 2, Montana Constitution

The Consumer Counsel represents Montana public utility and transportation consumers before the Montana Public Service Commission, state and federal courts, and administrative agencies in matters concerning public utility regulation. The Consumer Counsel, a position required by the Montana Constitution, is appointed by the Legislative Consumer Committee.

The Committee is required to meet at least quarterly and generally convenes eight to ten times per year. Meetings involve reports on Consumer Counsel staff activities, review and status updates of current cases, and review of contracts with expert witnesses. Two senators and two representatives, appointed by the Senate Committee on Committees and the Speaker of the House, respectively, serve on the Committee.

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Mary Wright, Attorney
Paul Schulz, Rate Analyst
Mandi Shulund Hinman, Secretary

Revenue and Transportation

<http://leg.mt.gov/rtic> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2009_2010/revenue_and_transportation/default.asp

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-227, MCA

The Revenue and Transportation Interim Committee is a 12-member, joint bipartisan committee of the Legislature that meets between legislative sessions. It has administrative rule review, draft legislation review, program evaluation, and monitoring responsibilities for the Montana Department of Revenue (DOR) and the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT).

The Committee also conducts interim studies and generally reviews matters related to taxation and transportation.

The Committee must prepare an estimate of the amount of revenue projected to be available for legislative appropriation by December 1 of even-numbered years for introduction during each regular session of the Legislature.

The Committee may prepare for introduction an estimate of the amount of projected revenue during a special session of the Legislature in which a revenue bill or an appropriation bill is under consideration. The revenue estimate is considered a subject specified in the call of a special session.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 5-12-302, MCA	Requires the Legislative Fiscal Analyst to assist the Committee in performing its revenue estimating duties.
Section 15-1-230, MCA	Calls for the DOR to report to the Committee at least once each year on the number and type of taxpayers claiming the credit for contributions to qualified endowments (section 15-30-166, MCA), the total amount of the credit claimed, the total amount of the credit recaptured, and the DOR's cost for administering the credit.
Section 15-7-111(4), MCA	Provides that the DOR must submit sales assessment ratio studies of residences to assess housing and market trends.

Section 15-30-140, MCA	Directs the Committee to determine if a change in the relief multiple for the income tax credit for the amount of property taxes paid for statewide school equalization levies on a principal residence is justified, based on actual and projected revenue and spending and any other appropriate factors.
Section 15-31-322, MCA	The DOR must provide a biennial update to the Committee of countries that may be considered a tax haven under section 15-31-322(1)(f), MCA.
Section 15-32-703, MCA	Requires the DOR to report to the Committee at least once each year regarding the number and type of taxpayers claiming a tax credit for the costs of investments in depreciable property used for storing or blending biodiesel with petroleum diesel, the total amount of the credit claimed, and the DOR's costs for administering the credit.
Section 15-70-234, MCA	Requires the MDT to report as needed, after negotiations are complete and before final agreement is submitted to the Attorney General, on the status of motor fuel tax cooperative agreement negotiations with the state's Indian tribes.
Section 15-70-369, MCA	Calls for the MDT to report to the Committee at least once each year on the number and type of taxpayers claiming a refund (1 cent a gallon for retailers or 2 cents a gallon for distributors of biodiesel sold), the total amount of the refund claimed, and the MDT's cost associated with administering the fund.
Sections 17-7-138 and 17-7-140, MCA	Provides that the Governor's budget office must notify the Committee of the amount of actual or projected receipts that is less than the amount projected to be received in the revenue estimate. The Committee is required to make recommendations to the budget director on the amount of the revenue shortfall. The budget director must consider the recommendations before certifying a general fund budget deficit. The budget office is also required to present an explanation of any significant change in agency or program scope to the appropriate interim committee.
Section 61-10-154, MCA	Requires a report from the MDT at least once a year on the department's authority to stop and inspect, if probable cause exists, diesel-powered vehicles to determine compliance with provisions of the special fuels use tax and the impacts enforcement has had on the state special revenue fund.
Section 90-8-311, MCA	Requires the Montana Department of Commerce to provide a yearly report to the appropriate interim committee on Montana

capital companies and Montana small business investment capital companies.

Membership

Joint Rule 30-70

At least 50% of the members must have served on the following session standing committees:

House Appropriations
House Taxation
House Transportation
Senate Finance and Claims
Senate Highways and Transportation
Senate Taxation

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Assigned Studies

HB 657: Study the taxation of oil and natural gas property.

HB 658: Review methods of providing assistance to property taxpayers.

SJR 16: Study uninsured and underinsured motorists.

SJR 37: Study filing status of married taxpayers.

Staff

Jeff Martin, Research Analyst, Legislative Services Division
Lee Heiman, Attorney, Legislative Services Division
Fong Hom, Legislative Secretary, Legislative Services Division

State Administration and Veterans' Affairs

<http://leg.mt.gov/sava> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2009_2010/state_administration_and_veterans_affairs/default.asp

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-228, MCA

The State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee (SAVA) is a joint bipartisan committee of the Legislature that meets between legislative sessions. The SAVAs: (1) monitors the activities of the Department of Administration, the Department of Military Affairs, the Office of the Secretary of State, the Office of the Commissioner of Political Practices, and entities attached to those departments and offices for administrative purposes; (2) examines policy issues that include procurement, information technology, state employee pay and benefits, tort claims, elections, campaign financing and practices, the National Guard and armories, veterans, disaster and emergency services, and public employee retirement systems; and (3) makes recommendations to the full Legislature on topics within the SAVAs' purview. The SAVAs' responsibilities include reviewing the administrative rules of assigned Executive Branch agencies (Department of Administration (DOA), Department of Military Affairs, the Office of the Secretary of State, and the Office of the Commissioner of Political Practices).

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 2-15-1205, MCA	Requires that a representative of the SAVAs serve as a nonvoting member on the Board of Veterans' Affairs.
Section 2-17-512, MCA	Calls for the DOA to report to the appropriate interim committee on a regular basis on the information technology activities of the Department.
Section 5-11-210, MCA	Requires that the SAVAs receive copies of all reports required under sections 17-6-230, 19-2-405, 19-2-407, and 19-20-201, MCA, provided to the Legislature via the Legislative Services Division.
Section 10-2-102, MCA	The Board of Veterans' Affairs must prepare a biennial report to the Governor, the Department of Military Affairs, the appropriate legislative interim committee, and veterans' service organizations that includes but is not limited to the latest information about the

demographics of Montana's veteran population, a needs assessment, annual summaries of the veterans' special revenue accounts established in sections 10-2-112 and 10-2-603, MCA, and a review of the veterans' affairs budget.

Section 5, Chapter 278,
Laws of 2009

Requires the Secretary of State, whenever requested, to report on the progress of the Secretary's investigation into challenges and problems associated with the implementation of efficient, secure, and timely registration and voting for absent uniformed officers and overseas electors.

House Bill No. 2 (2009)

Appropriates \$50,000 to SAVA to obtain actuarial services to analyze retirement-related proposals.

Membership

Joint Rule 30-70

At least 50% of the members must have served on the following session standing committees:

House Appropriations
House State Administration
Senate Finance and Claims
Senate State Administration

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Assigned Studies

HB 659: Study public retirement systems; redesign teacher' retirement.

HJR 35: Study state employee bonus payments.

Staff

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Dave Bohyer, Director, Office of Research and Policy Analysis, lead staff for HJR 35 study
David Niss, Attorney, Legislative Services Division
Fong Hom, Legislative Secretary, Legislative Services Division

State-Tribal Relations

<http://leg.mt.gov/tribal> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2009_2010/state_tribal_relations/default.asp

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-229, MCA

The mandate of the State-Tribal Relations Committee is to act as a liaison with tribal governments, encourage state-tribal and local government-tribal cooperation, conduct any assigned interim studies, and report its activities, findings, recommendations, and proposals for legislation to the upcoming Legislature.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 90-11-102, MCA The State Director of Indian Affairs must report in detail at every meeting of the Committee regarding actions taken by the State-Tribal Economic Development Commission to carry out its duties.

Membership

The eight-member bipartisan Committee is chosen by the Speaker of the House (four members) and the Senate Committee on Committees (four members).

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Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)

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Assigned Studies

There are no studies assigned to the State-Tribal Relations Committee this interim. Instead, the Committee will focus on several issues during 2009-10, including:

- Determining if substantive problems exist with the status of extradition agreements between Indian and non-Indian jurisdictions;
- Reviewing the topic of cultural and historical preservation and possibly preparing legislation for the 2011 Legislature that recognizes the authority of Montana tribal governments in the protection, preservation, and management of tribal cultural resources;
- Studying Indian K-12 student dropout rates; and
- Examining Indian health care resources and evaluating disparities between Indian and low-moderate income Montanans vs. other Montanans.

Staff

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CJ Johnson, Administrative Support Secretary, Legislative Services Division

Water Policy

<http://leg.mt.gov/water> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2009_2010/water_policy/default.asp

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-231, MCA

The Water Policy Interim Committee (WPIC) is a joint bipartisan Committee of the Legislature created by the passage of Senate Bill No. 22 (2009). The Legislature authorized the new Committee to study topical water quality and quantity issues.

Membership

The WPIC is subject to the provisions of section 5-5-211, MCA, and the Committee members appointed may be selected from the following standing committees: Senate Natural Resources and Energy; House Natural Resources; Senate Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation; House Agriculture; Senate Local Government; and House Local Government. In addition, section 5-5-231, MCA, states that at least two members of the Committee must possess experience in agriculture.

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<i>PRIMARY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES</i>
<i>STATUTORY INTERIM AND OTHER COMMITTEES WITH LEGISLATIVE STAFF SUPPORT</i>
<i>ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES ON WHICH LEGISLATORS SERVE</i>
<i>INTERSTATE ORGANIZATIONS</i>

Board of Directors of the State Compensation Insurance Fund

<http://montanastatefund.com>

Statutory Citation: Sections 2-15-1019 and 39-71-2313, MCA

The State Compensation Insurance Fund (State Fund) is a nonprofit, independent public corporation established for the purpose of allowing an option for employers to insure their liability for workers' compensation and occupational disease coverage. The Board of Directors of the State Fund helps insure that the fund remains financially solvent.

Membership

The board consists of seven members appointed by the Governor. The Executive Director of the State Fund is an ex officio nonvoting member. At least four members must represent State Fund policyholders and at least four members must represent private, for-profit enterprises. One of the seven members may be a licensed insurance producer.

The Presiding Officer of the Economic Affairs Interim Committee appoints two members from the Committee, one from the majority party and one from the minority party, to serve as liaisons to the Board. Legislative liaisons serve from appointment through each even-numbered calendar year and may attend Board meetings and receive Board meeting agendas and information.

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Capitol Complex Advisory Council

<http://ccac.mt.gov/default.mcp>

Statutory Citation: Title 2, chapter 17, part 8, MCA

The Capitol Complex Advisory Council reviews proposals for long-term placement of displays or the naming of state buildings, spaces, or rooms in the Capitol complex; advises the Legislature on the long-term placement of statues, busts, memorials, monuments, or art displays within the Capitol complex; and advises the Montana Department of Administration (DOA) on interior decoration of the Capitol and on grounds maintenance and grounds displays.

By November 15 of each even-numbered year, the Council must report to the Legislature on requests that it has reviewed for naming buildings, spaces, or rooms and for long-term placement of items in the Capitol or on the Capitol complex grounds.

Membership

The Council consists of nine members, including two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker, two members of the Senate appointed by the Committee on Committees, a public representative appointed by the Governor, and the director or the director's designee of each of the following agencies—the Montana Historical Society, the Montana Arts Council, the DOA, and the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks.

The DOA provides staff services to the Council.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

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Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program Advisory Committee

Statutory Citation: Section 75-6-231, MCA

As provided in section 75-6-203, MCA, the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program is a "program under which the state may provide financial assistance to community water systems and nonprofit noncommunity water systems". The program is co-administered by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), which manages the technical components of the program, and the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), which implements the loan program and issues the bonds that are used for the state match to the federal grant.

The revolving fund is a separate account in the state treasury from which loans can be made, debt obligations and insurance can be purchased, and other assistance can be provided to improve water systems.

Each year, the DEQ must prepare an intended use plan for the fund, which must include descriptions of the projects that program funds will assist and the amount and type of funds to be allocated. This plan is subject to public comment and review by the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program Advisory Committee.

Membership

The Committee has six members, two members from the Legislature and a member from each of the following entities: the Montana League of Cities and Towns, the Montana Association of Counties, the DNRC, and the DEQ. The legislative members must be chosen from both houses and from the majority party and the minority party.

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Economic Development Advisory Council

http://businessresources.mt.gov/BRD_EDAC.asp

Statutory Citation: Section 2-15-1820, MCA.

The Economic Development Advisory Council provides direction and oversight to the Governor and the Montana Department of Commerce (DOC). Specifically, the Council:

- advises the DOC concerning the distribution of funds to certified regional development corporations for business development purposes;
- advises the DOC regarding the creation, operation, and maintenance of the Microbusiness Finance Program and the policies and operations affecting the certified microbusiness development corporations;
- advises the Governor and the DOC on significant matters concerning economic development in Montana;
- prescribes allowable administrative expenses for which economic development funds may be used by certified regional development corporations; and
- encourages certified regional development corporations to promote economic development on Indian reservations in their regions.

Membership

The Council is composed of up to 19 members. Fifteen of the members are appointed by the Governor and include the Director of the DOC, the Governor's Chief Business Development Officer who serves as Presiding Officer of the Council, one member from a Montana tribal government who represents a tribal economic development organization, and up to 12 public members representing each geographic region covered by each of the regional development corporations certified by the DOC. In addition, two representatives, including one from each party, are appointed by the Speaker of the House. Two senators, including one from each party, are appointed by the Committee on Committees.

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Electronic Government Advisory Council

<http://www.discoveringmontana.com/itsd/policy/councils/egov/egov.asp>

Statutory Citation: Section 2-17-1105, MCA.

The charge of the Electronic Government Advisory Council is to advise the Montana Department of Administration (DOA) on the creation, management, and administration of electronic government services and information on the Internet.

Membership

The Council consists of the following members:

- the Director of the DOA, who serves as Presiding Officer;
- the Secretary of State or the Secretary of State's designee;
- the Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee;
- the Director of the Department of Commerce or the Director's designee;
- the Director of the Department of Revenue or the Director's designee;
- the State Librarian or the State Librarian's designee;
- a member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- a member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;
- an elected local government official, appointed by the Governor;
- two representatives from state agencies that are not represented on the Council, appointed by the Governor;
- two members of the public, appointed by the Governor; and
- the administrator of the Information Services Division of the DOA.

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Future Fisheries Review Panel

Statutory Citation: Section 87-1-273, MCA

The Future Fisheries Review Panel is responsible for assisting the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks in reviewing projects submitted by public or private entities for funding and determining which projects are appropriate for inclusion in the Future Fisheries Improvement Program.

Membership

The Speaker of the House and the Senate Committee on Committees each choose a legislative member to serve on the panel. Eleven other members, representing the interests listed below, are appointed by the Governor or the Governor's designee. The Panel is required to meet at least once every 6 months.

The Future Fisheries Review Panel must consist of at least 13 members, including but not limited to:

- two legislators;
- a representative of conservation districts;
- a representative with expertise in commercial agriculture;
- a representative with expertise in irrigated agriculture;
- a private fisheries restoration professional;
- two members who are licensed Montana anglers;
- a representative with expertise in silviculture;
- a Montana high school student;
- a representative with expertise in mining reclamation techniques;
- a representative with expertise in fisheries; and
- one ex officio member from the Montana Department of Transportation who has experience in highway impacts mitigation.

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Gaming Advisory Council

<http://doj.mt.gov/gaming/advisorycouncil.asp>

Statutory Citation: Section 2-15-2021, MCA

The Gaming Advisory Council, created in 1989, advises the Montana Department of Justice (DOJ) and other state agencies on public policy matters related to gaming, including changes to gaming statutes, the need for additional or modified department rules, and other gambling-related issues. The Council must submit to the DOJ a biennial report that includes the Council's findings and recommendations.

Membership

The Speaker of the House and the Senate Committee on Committees each select one person from their respective houses to serve on the Council. The remaining members are appointed by the Attorney General, with one representing the public, two representing local government, three representing the gaming industry, and one who is a Native American.

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Information Technology Board

<http://itsd.mt.gov/policy/councils/itb/default.mcp>

Statutory Citation: Section 2-15-1021, MCA

The Information Technology Board provides a forum to guide state agencies, the Legislative Branch, the Judicial Branch, and local governments in the development and deployment of intergovernmental information technology resources. The board also advises the Montana Department of Administration (DOA) on statewide information technology standards and policies, the state strategic information technology plan, major information technology budget requests, and rates and other charges for services established by the DOA.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 2-6-503, MCA

Requires the Chief Information Officer of the DOA to inform the Information Technology Board, the Office of Budget and Program Planning, and the Legislative Finance Committee of extensions granted to state agencies to comply with procedures developed to protect the use of social security numbers necessary for the performance of the agencies' duties.

Membership

The board consists of 19 members that include:

- the Director of the DOA, who serves as presiding officer of the board;
- the chief information officer provided for in section 2-17-511, MCA;
- the Director of the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning;
- six members who are directors of state agencies and who are appointed by the Governor;
- two members representing local government, appointed by the Governor;
- one member representing the Public Service Commission (PSC), appointed by the PSC;
- one member representing the private sector, appointed by the Governor;
- one member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- one member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;

- one member representing the Legislative Branch, appointed by the Legislative Branch Computer System Planning Council;
- one member representing the Judicial Branch, appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court;
- one member representing the University System, appointed by the Board of Regents; and
- one member representing K-12 education, appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

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Land Information Advisory Council

<http://itsd.mt.gov/policy/councils/mliac/default.mcp>

Statutory Citation: Title 90, chapter 1, part 4, MCA

The Montana Land Information Act requires the state to compile a digital record of land characteristics in Montana and to make the information available to the public. The Act is administered by the Montana Department of Administration (DOA) with advice from the Land Information Advisory Council. Specifically, the Act provides the authority for a Land Information Account and for distribution of account funds. The DOA must develop a Land Information Plan that establishes a budget and sets the priorities for information gathering and dissemination.

Membership

The 22-member Council is composed of:

- the Director of the DOA or the Director's designee;
- the State Librarian or the State Librarian's designee;
- the directors of four other departments or a person to act in a Director's absence;
- three persons who represent county or municipal government, at least one of whom is active in land information systems;
- two persons who are employed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture;
- two persons who are employed by the U.S. Department of the Interior;
- two persons who are active in land information systems and represent public utilities or private businesses;
- one person who represents Indian tribal interests;
- one person who represents the Montana University System;
- two persons who are members of a Montana association of GIS professionals;
- one person who represents the interests of a Montana association of registered land surveyors;
- one member of the Montana State Senate; and
- one member of the Montana House of Representatives.

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Montana Board of Investments

<http://investmentmt.com/>

Statutory Citation: Section 2-15-1808, MCA

The Board of Investments is a quasi-judicial board administratively attached to the Montana Department of Commerce. The Board has the authority to invest all state funds. Funds must be invested under the prudent expert principle as described in section 17-6-201, MCA.

Membership

The Board is composed of nine members appointed by the Governor and two ex officio nonvoting legislative members who act as liaisons to the Board. The board is composed of one member from the Public Employees' Retirement Board, one member from the Teachers' Retirement Board, and seven members who represent the financial community, small business, agriculture, and labor.

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Montana Heritage Preservation and Development Commission

<http://montanaheritagecommission.com>

Session Law Citation: Chapter 469, Laws of 1997

Statutory Citation: Title 22, chapter 3, part 10, MCA

Established in 1997, the Montana Heritage Preservation and Development Commission is responsible for managing, developing, and operating Heritage Commission properties, including Virginia City, Nevada City, and the Pioneer Cabin and Reeder's Alley in Helena. The Commission consists of 14 members. The two legislative members are chosen by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate. The Governor appoints nine members of the public with backgrounds in tourism, history and historic preservation, community planning, and business. The directors of the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, the Montana Historical Society, and the Montana Department of Commerce also serve on the commission.

Although the Commission is charged with overseeing the acquisition of culturally and historically significant properties throughout the state, its first order of business is to manage Virginia City and Nevada City.

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Awaiting appointments.

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Natural Resource Damage Program Policy Committee

Session Law Citation: Chapter 454, Laws of 2007

The Natural Resource Damage Program Policy Committee oversees the Montana Department of Justice's litigation seeking damages for injuries caused by the release of hazardous substances from the Upper Blackfoot mining complex, including the Mike Horse Mine and Dam.

Membership

The Committee consists of the Governor's Chief of Staff, the directors of the Departments of Environmental Quality; Natural Resources and Conservation; and Fish, Wildlife, and Parks; the Attorney General; and four legislative members appointed by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate, each appointing two members of their respective bodies, one from the majority party and one from the minority party.

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Rail Service Competition Council

<http://mdt.mt.gov/business/rscc/>

Statutory Citation: Section 2-15-2511, MCA

The Montana Legislature created the Rail Service Competition Council in 2005. The Council works to promote rail service competition in the state, develop related plans, evaluate taxing practices, assess organizational structures to help facilitate development of rail services, coordinate with railroads, and promote expansion and construction of rail services.

Membership

The Council consists of the following members:

- the Director of the Department of Agriculture;
- the Director of the Department of Transportation;
- the Director of the Department of Revenue;
- the Chief Business Development Officer of the Office of Economic Development;
- seven people appointed by the Governor with the following qualifications:
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to Class I railroads;
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to Class II railroads;
 - ▶ one person who is a farm commodity producer in the state and who has substantial knowledge and experience related to transportation of farm commodities;
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience in the trucking industry in the state;
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to transportation for the mineral industry in the state;
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to transportation for the coal industry in the state;
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to transportation for the wood products industry in the state; and
- two members from the Economic Affairs Interim Committee, one from the majority party and one from the minority party and one from each house of the

Legislature, selected by the presiding officer of the committee with the concurrence of the vice presiding officer.

The 13-member council is organized into 6 subcommittees and meets on a regular basis.

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Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission

<http://dnrc.mt.gov/rwrcc/default.asp>

Statutory Citation: Section 2-15-212, MCA

The Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission negotiates, on behalf of the Governor of the State of Montana, federal reserved water rights with the federal government and Montana's Indian tribes as part of the statewide water adjudication process.

The Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate each select two members from their respective bodies who join five other members appointed by the Governor and the Attorney General.

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Upland Game Bird Citizens' Advisory Council

<http://fwp.mt.gov/habitat/uplandgamebird/cac.html>

Statutory Citation: Section 87-1-251, MCA

The Upland Game Bird Citizens' Advisory Council is a 12-member council appointed by the Director of the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks to advise the Department on a 10-year strategic plan for the Upland Game Bird Enhancement Program and monitor and report on program activities.

Membership

The 12 members of the Council must include a public member representing each of the department's administrative regions and include an upland game bird hunter; a local chamber of commerce representative; a conservationist; an upland game bird biologist; at least two landowners, one of whom must be enrolled in the block management program; and a senator and a representative from different political parties.

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Workforce Investment Board

<http://swib.mt.gov>

Federal Law Citation: 29 U.S.C. 2821

Statutory Citation: Section 53-2-1203, MCA

The purpose of the Federal Workforce Investment Act (1998), as stated in 29 U.S.C. 2811, *et seq.*, is to "provide workforce investment activities . . . that increase the employment, retention, and earnings of participants, and increase occupational skill attainment by participants, and, as a result, improve the quality of the workforce, reduce welfare dependency, and enhance the productivity and competitiveness of the Nation." The Act further states that the "Governor of a State shall establish a State workforce investment board to assist in the development of the State plan" and to carry out other functions.

The State Workforce Investment Board serves in an advisory capacity to the Governor on workforce investment issues and provides broad oversight to Montana's two local Workforce Investment Boards. The State Board conducts much of its work through committees and has established the following committees for the 2009-10 interim: Apprenticeship Advisory Committee, Executive Committee, Career Clusters and Big Sky Pathways Committee, Incumbent and New Worker Training Committee, Workforce Investment Act Committee, and the Youth Council. The Board is staffed from the Commissioner's Office of the Montana Department of Labor and Industry.

Membership

The Board must include:

- the Governor or the Governor's designee;
- two members of the House of Representatives, one from the majority party and one from the minority party, and two members of the Senate, one from the majority party and one from the minority party, appointed by the presiding officer of each respective chamber; and
- individuals appointed by the Governor, including:
 - representatives of businesses located in Montana who are owners of businesses, chief executive or operating officers, and other business

executives or employers with optimum policymaking or hiring authority, including business members of local boards, and represent businesses with employment opportunities that reflect the employment opportunities in Montana;

- ▶ chief elected officials of local government;
- ▶ representatives of labor organizations;
- ▶ representatives of individuals and organizations who have experience with respect to youth activities;
- ▶ representatives of individuals and organizations who have experience and expertise in the delivery of workforce investment activities;
- ▶ representatives of the state agencies who are responsible for the programs and activities that are carried out by the one-stop centers, including but not limited to the Montana Department of Labor and Industry; the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services; the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education; and the Office of Public Instruction;
- ▶ at least one representative of military veterans; and
- ▶ other representatives who the Governor may designate.

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<i>PRIMARY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES</i>
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The Council of State Governments

<http://csgwest.org>

Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 11, part 3, MCA

Section 5-11-304, MCA, authorizes the Legislative Council to facilitate Montana's participation in "appropriate interstate, international, and intergovernmental entities".

Montana is one of 13 states participating in the Council of State Governments-West (CSG-West). CSG-West provides a "nonpartisan platform for regional cooperation and collaboration among the legislatures of the thirteen western states by creating opportunities for legislators and staff to share ideas and experience with their colleagues".² The fundamental work of the CSG is accomplished through policy study committees with legislative representatives from each of the participating states.

The Legislative Council has appointed legislators to 2-year terms as members of the following CSG-West committees.

Membership

Committee	Senate Members		House Members	
Education	Branae Hawks	Stewart- Peregoy	Bill Beck Lake	Pease- Lopez
Energy and Environment	Black Brown Curtiss Essmann Hawks	Jackson Jent Larsen McGee Stewart- Peregoy	Hands	O'Hara
Fiscal Affairs	Balyeat	Tutvedt	Bill Beck Lake	Sands

² <http://www.csgwest.org>

Committee	Senate Members		House Members	
Legislative Council on River Governance	Barrett Brenden ³ Curtiss	Gallus Hamlett McGee	Furey	Welborn
Future of Western Legislatures	Balyeat Barrett	Schmidt	Himmelberger	Malek
Trade and Transportation	Balyeat Essmann Keane	Larsen Tutvedt	Bill Beck French	Reichner
Water and Public Lands	Barrett Brenden Hamlett	Jent Kaufmann McGee	Menahan	Washburn
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³ Voting members are noted in bold.

National Conference of State Legislatures

<http://ncsl.org>

Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 11, part 3, MCA

Section 5-11-305, MCA, authorizes Montana's participation in appropriate interstate organizations, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) among them. NCSL is a bipartisan organization that serves only legislators and their staffs. NCSL provides research, technical assistance, and opportunities for policymakers to exchange ideas on the most pressing state issues and is an advocate for the interests of the states in the American federal system.

Much of the NCSL's work is accomplished through its standing committees composed of legislators and legislative staff from across the country. The Legislative Council has appointed legislators to 2-year terms as members of the following NCSL committees.

Membership

Committee	Senate Members		House Members	
Agriculture and Energy	Barrett Black Brenden	Hamlett Jent Larsen	Jones	Phillips
Budgets and Revenue	Balyeat Hamlett Kaufmann	Schmidt Tutvedt	Nooney	Sesso
Communications, Financial Services and Interstate Commerce			Beck	Reichner
Education	Branæ Hawks	Stewart- Peregoy	Bean	Grinde
Environment	Brenden Curtiss Hawks	Kaufmann McGee	Barrett	Klock
Health	Roy Brown Larsen	Schmidt Windy Boy	Hunter	MacLaren

Committee	Senate Members		House Members	
Human Services and Welfare	Schmidt Williams	Windy Boy	Henry	Roberts
Labor and Economic Development	Balyeat Keane	Stewart- Peregoy Williams	Ankney	
Law and Criminal Justice	Curtiss Gallus Jent	Juneau McGee Williams	MacDonald	O'Hara
Legislative Effectiveness	Barrett Branae	Jent	Berry	Van Dyk
Redistricting and Elections	Balyeat Roy Brown	Juneau Tutvedt	Driscoll	Ingraham
Transportation	Keane		Arntzen	French

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Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

<http://pnwer.org>

Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 11, part 7, MCA

The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) is a statutory, public/private partnership composed of legislators, governments, and businesses in the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington and the Canadian provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, and the Yukon Territory. PNWER's mission is to promote greater regional cooperation between governments and businesses to improve the region's global competitiveness and its natural environment.

The PNWER consists of a Delegate Council and an Executive Committee. The Delegate Council includes the Governor or the Governor's designee and four legislators from each participating state and four representatives from each participating province or territory. The Executive Committee consists of one legislator from each participating state, province, or territory who is a member of the Delegate Council and four of the Governors, Premiers, or Commissioners or their designees. The Legislative Council is authorized under section 5-11-305, MCA, to make Montana's appointments to the PNWER.

Working groups may be established to address specific topics. The current working groups are: Agriculture, Border Issues, Energy, Environment, Forestry, Health Care, High Tech, Homeland Security, Invasive Species, Sustainable Development, Telecommunications, Tourism, Trade and Economic Development, Transportation, Water Policy, and Workforce Development.

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